



Maine Department of Health and Human Services

MECMS Update 72

July 17, 2006

Billing News & Tips

Update on electronic claims submission to MaineCare in HIPPA compliant formats

MECMS Release 1 introduced functionality for receipt of 837I HIPPA compliant transactions. Validation of Institutional (otherwise known as UB-92) claim files has begun with those submitters and providers who have participated in beta testing since last December. After monitoring these claims through production, a gradual rollout will occur to other Institutional electronic submitters.

Institutions will receive a letter from the Office of MaineCare Services regarding testing-to-validation dates. Providers will be instructed to visit <http://www.maine.gov/bms> and to select the HIPPA link in the left hand column. From there, providers can access the Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) packet of materials required to begin submission of 837I claims.

Providers should free to browse and complete the EDI Enrollment Packet so that when OMS contacts your organization, you will be ready to send it in. Please do not submit completed materials before your institution is notified of its scheduled dates for testing.

In addition, providers have the option to delay 837 testing until MECMS can accept all provider type claims- Professional and Dental, as well as Institutional.

A contact form is available on the EDI website for questions and comments.

Stay tuned for more detailed schedules and information.

Update on Release 1 void functionality

The void functionality added to MECMS as part of Release 1 is now working to process those claims submitted previously and held in the system. Providers should watch for evidence of these claims on Remittance Advices.

The voided amount will appear in the adjustment category of the RA. A sample of how these RA's appear will be mailed to providers and posted to the OMS web site.

Once the claims held in the system awaiting void functionality process, providers will receive instruction to submit new void and re-bill transactions. Remember that the void transaction will debit the provider payment account and that the re-bill cannot be submitted until evidence of the void transaction appears on the Remittance Advice.

New link for MECMS information

Please bookmark the link here for the most recent MECMS information, as the previously supplied link has changed.

http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/bms/member/innerthird/mecms_update_for_provider.htm

Billing mistakes will result in return of claims beginning September 1

Providers that submit paper claims should follow the OMS billing instructions to ensure claims acceptance and payment. Beginning September 1 claims will be returned routinely for the following reasons:

- Member date of birth is missing or is not the required 8 digits; the date of birth must appear as 01/01/2006
- Member's MaineCare ID number is missing or invalid; Social Security numbers cannot be used
- Provider ID number is missing or invalid; the nine digit ID number must be used
- UB-92 block #4 contains wrong or missing information
- Claim is unreadable or illegible and cannot be imaged
- Claim is too light
- Claim is damaged
- Information is not placed with the correct block or is not aligned correctly
- Information is missing
- Signature or date is missing; name must be for individual, not company
- Claim is submitted using red ink
- Claim is not submitted on original claim form or an incorrect form is used
- Attachments are a size other than 8.5 x 11 or are 2-sided

All returned claims will be accompanied by a cover sheet listing the reason(s) the claim was not accepted.

The complete set of billing instructions can be found at

http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/bms/providerfiles/provider_billing_manuals.htm

NPI Outreach Events Available

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and the Workgroup for Electronic Data Interchange (WEDI) are working together to ensure that all healthcare providers are educated and informed on the new National Provider Identifier (NPI). As such, there are a few upcoming outreach events, sponsored by WEDI, that providers may find helpful. There is a cost to participate in these events. Web links are provided for more information.

Taxi-ing to the Taxonomy Code Audiocast

July 26th from 2:00 to 3:30 pm, EST

<http://www.wedi.org/forms/meeting/MeetingFormPublic/view?id=22D400000004>

WEDI NPI Industry Forum IV: NPI Is Knocking At Your Door – Will You Let It In?

August 15th and 16th at the Hyatt Fair Lakes in Fairfax, Virginia

<http://www.wedi.org/forms/meeting/MeetingFormPublic/view?id=1EFC0000000A>

Rules proposed for medical supplies and durable medical equipment as well as ambulatory surgical center services

The Office of MaineCare Services is proposing changes to the MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapter II, Section 60, Medical Supplies and Durable Medical Equipment. This change proposed that MaineCare cover cochlear implants for prelinguistically and postlinguistically deafened children ages one and older. The proposed rule also updates the criteria for cochlear implants for all members and makes technical corrections for clarification. A hearing is scheduled for Thursday, July 20 at the Office of MaineCare Services on Civic Center Drive in Augusta. The deadline for comments is midnight Monday, July 31.

OMS is also proposing an update to the MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapter II, Section 4, Ambulatory Surgical Center Services. This rule change updates billing and reimbursement instructions, including correcting a coding modifier used for billing, from “F” to “SG.” Technical corrections are also made for clarification. A public hearing on this is scheduled for Tuesday, July 25 at the Office of MaineCare Services in Augusta. Comments must be received by midnight on Monday, August 7.

Rules and related rulemaking documents can be found at

http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/bms/rules/general_rules_policies.htm

Some Provider Services will be unavailable July 28th

The Provider Services office at 1-800-321-5557 option 9 (“Eligibility, Electronic and Paper Billing Instructions, Covered Services, Status of Claims and Interim Payments”) will be closed on Friday, July 28th due to an offsite training day. Please remember that you can access eligibility and claims data on the IVR at 1-800-321-5557, option 2 and through the portals on the OMS website at

http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/bms/member/innerthird/mecms_home_page.htm>

In addition, Option 8 (“Provider and Billing Issues”) will be open on the 28th. The Provider Services office will resume normal business hours at 8 a.m. on Monday, July 31st.

Contact Us

Call: 1-800-321-5557

TTY: 1-800-423-4331

Augusta area: 207-624-7539

On the web: www.maine.gov/dhhs/bms

Write:

MaineCare Billing and Information Unit
Office of MaineCare Services
11 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0011

Our listserv:

Sign up for a convenient, fast way to get the news you need about billing procedures and other MaineCare provider information:

<http://mailman.informe.org/mailman/listinfo/provider/>

Previous issues of *The MECMS Update*:

http://www.maine.gov/bms/member/innerthird/mecms_update_for_provider.htm ■